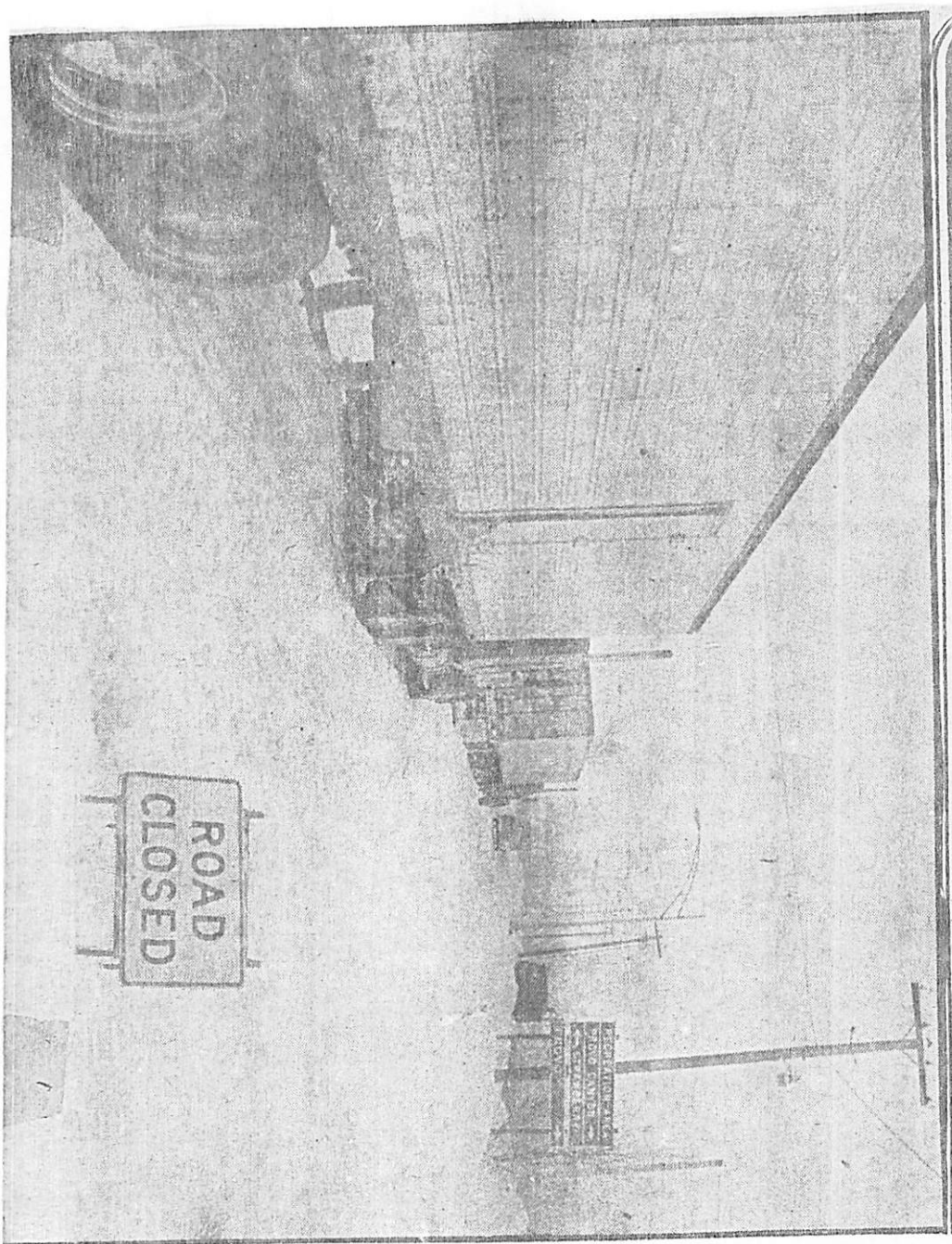
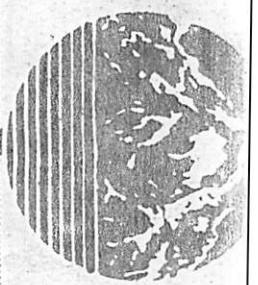


# Wasatch

Jan 5, 1982



Jan 5, 1982  
on both sides

(Top) Roads were closed most of Tuesday keeping trucks from going either east or south. Most roads were reopened by early Wednesday morning.

(Below) A semi tractor trailer rig was attempting a left turn on to Heber's Main Street Saturday night and became stuck in a snow bank, blocking traffic.

Jan 5, 1982  
**Weather hampers**

# Heber Valley drivers

Wasatch County — Weather conditions have been extremely hazardous for area residents.

With almost all access to the valley closed, the situation seems to have brightened a little with the coming weather forecasts.

Highway 40, from Heber City to Vernal, have been closed. High-

way 189, Heber City to Provo, has been closed.

According to the Daniels Stations, reasons for closing the two canyon roads had been due to road conditions, snow, both blowing and drifting, and Highway 189 was closed temporarily because two semi-tractor rigs collided, and

caused the initial jam up in Provo Canyon.

As of press time, the canyons were both open, and traffic was moving regularly.

Weather predictions forecast increasing clouds at the end of the week, with a chance of snow showers.

Jan 5, 1982



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**U-HAUL TRAILER RENTALS-**  
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### NEIGHBORHOOD DEALER

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Arrow Freight operated locally  
in Heber City for short time  
& deliveries were made by  
Kenneth Deloy Johnson

## LESLIE LOWE ASHTON



Leslie Lowe Ashton was born April 15, 1904, in Vernal, Utah, the son of Leslie and Eva Allen Ashton, early settlers of the Uinta Basin. Lowe spent his early years in Vernal, graduating from Wilcox Academy after which he spent a year in southern California attending UCLA, returning to Utah and entering the University of Utah for three years. In his early twenties Lowe was active in Masonic work, joining Basin Lodge No. 20 in Myton, Utah; later the Knight Templars in Price, Utah. After moving to Heber in 1933 he joined the Malta Commandery No. 3 in Park City. He then became a Shriner, affiliating with the El Kalah Temple in Salt Lake City. He married Alyce Hansen of Mt. Pleasant, Utah, on May 13, 1929, and to them were born three children: Leslie Lowe Jr., Homer H. and Merry Alyce. Lowe's early business career started in Duchesne, Utah, in March 1927, where he operated a dry goods store and a service station under the name of Ashton's, owned by himself and two brothers, C. L. Ashton of Roosevelt and Rae Ashton of Vernal. The first business operation in Heber occurred in 1930, when Ashton's sent Mel Poulson of Duchesne to Heber to manage the Shell Oil petroleum plant. In February of 1933 Lowe closed the dry goods store in Duchesne, and came to Heber in order to be closer to a railhead to supplement the businesses in Roosevelt and Vernal. In Heber with his brothers Rae and Clair the Bonneville Lumber Company was purchased which became known as Ashton's. The building was moved back from the street, a service station added, and with a complete stock of lumber and hardware and automotive supplies they began business as Ash-

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ton's. In 1942 fire destroyed the store, station and most of the yard and Lowe was very seriously burned. Because of the war they were unable to rebuild completely so a small station and sheds were constructed and the building across the street which used to house Jeff's Hotel at 105 North Main was purchased. The hardware store remains at this location to this date. After the war the old tithing office building was purchased, torn down and a modern service station erected. The Aloma Motel and the lumber yard were constructed on the original business site. In 1943 the partnership with his brothers was dissolved so each could concentrate on the localities where they lived. Lowe retained business property in Vernal, Duchesne and Roosevelt to continue as a part of the petroleum division he had established. He operated a fleet of trucks to service these points for many years. Lowe Ashton was noted as an extremely energetic and hard working man. He spent long hours to establish his business on a sound basis. Lowe was prominent in the development of the community and civil life of the area from his arrival in Heber. He was an enthusiastic booster of the beauties of Heber Valley. He was a long time member of the Lions Club serving one term as president. He was one of the charter members of the Wasatch Chamber of Commerce, serving on the board of directors for several years. He was also a founder of the Wasatch Summit Knife and Fork Club, serving as its president and secretary for several terms. He served a term as head of the Draft Board during the early years of World War II. He also served a term under Governor J. Bracken Lee during 1953 and 1954 on the committee established by the governor to study the school and education problems of the State of Utah. In his state-wide activities as a business and civic leader, his membership in associations was outstanding for its scope and leadership. He was elected president of the Hi-Way 40 Clubs of Utah in 1940 and served this organization faithfully for many years, attempting to better the tourist and travel industries in Utah. He was a member of the Intermountain Lumber Dealers Assn for many years, serving as president in 1941. He was also a member of the Intermountain Hardware and Implement Dealers Assn, serving on their board of directors for several years. At the time of his death, he was president of the association. In April 23,

1957, Lowe Ashton died in the LDS Hospital in Salt Lake City, the result of a short illness. Alyce, his wife, his two sons and daughter remain in Heber, actively managing the many businesses that Lowe Ashton had created during the 25 years he lived in Heber Valley.

Ashton Oil Co

602 W 100 So Heber, Ut

654-0420

# Help Restore That "Wellspring" So It

## Christmas Accident Affirms Resident's Belief in Need for Local Hospital



It was 9 a.m. on Monday, Dec. 26, and the crew of the Heber Creeper was rushing to get the newly fallen snow cleared so passengers could board the train.

Lowe Ashton, owner of the Heber Creeper, said after sending his crew onto the train to stoke the stoves, he was preparing to use a snow blower to clear the snow from the boarding area.

"The snow blower was just sitting there idling, but the fan's blades were still going," Lowe said. "I slapped at some ice on the machine and the next thing I knew the fan pulled my glove in and I had to pull my right hand out with my left hand."

When Lowe finally got his hand out of the blades of the machine, his two middle fingers on the right hand were just barely attached by pieces of skin. "My boys heard me holler and came running. They threw me in the truck and we headed for the hospital."

On arriving at Wasatch County IHC Hospital's Emergency Room, the doctor and staff went about the business of trying to save his fingers. "Dr. McDonald did what he could for me and then told me I was going to need a plastic surgeon to reattach the fingers," Lowe said.

They called LDS Hospital and told them to get ready for me to arrive. Then they made sure everything that needed to be done to save the fingers during my trip to Salt Lake was done

and we were on our way."

Arriving at LDS Hospital, Lowe spent three and one-half hours in surgery. With the combination of treatment at Wasatch and LDS Hospitals, Lowe's fingers were saved, although, he will be going through several more operations to graft skin and repair nerves.

"I am sure if the hospital had not been in Heber and treated me first, I would have never made it down the canyon with my hand intact," Lowe said. "I know I would have lost the fingers if the emergency room and its people hadn't been in Heber to take care of me right after the accident happened."

Lowe said he thinks people take for granted what they have in the community around them until they need it. Often times when they actually need the service, it is not available because of lack of use.

"All you've got to do is have one emergency in your lifetime," he said. "Then you will be glad that hospital is here in Heber. We have had to use the hospital a lot of times for people on the train; someone gets coal dust in their eyes or they get hurt or sick. We are always comforted in knowing that the hospital is there for us to take those folks to. Not having a hospital in Heber would be a disaster not only to the residents here, but also to the thousands of guests who visit this county year round."

Being involved in an industry like tourism, Lowe said he realizes the importance of having a hospital in Heber. And, his recent accident has only helped reaffirm that belief.

"More than 750,000 people will visit Wasatch State Park this coming year," Lowe said. "And that doesn't count the thousands who come to ski at Park City, fish at Strawberry or ride our train. This area depends on tourism, and those tourists expect us to take care of them once they get up here in this valley. One of the things we need in order to be able to do that is a hospital."

Lowe said it is his feeling that Heber could not survive as a community without a hospital. "We could survive as a community without a government, but not without a hospital," he said.

Lowe believes there is an image factor involved for the entire state when considering whether or not Heber and other small rural communities have hospitals. "The state of Utah as a whole would get a black eye if its rural hospitals started closing like they are in other parts of the country," Lowe said. "A company doesn't just look at the hospitals in the larger cities where their employees will live; they also take a look at what is available in the area where their people will be playing."

**Emergency C-Section  
Performed at Wasatch County  
Hospital**





